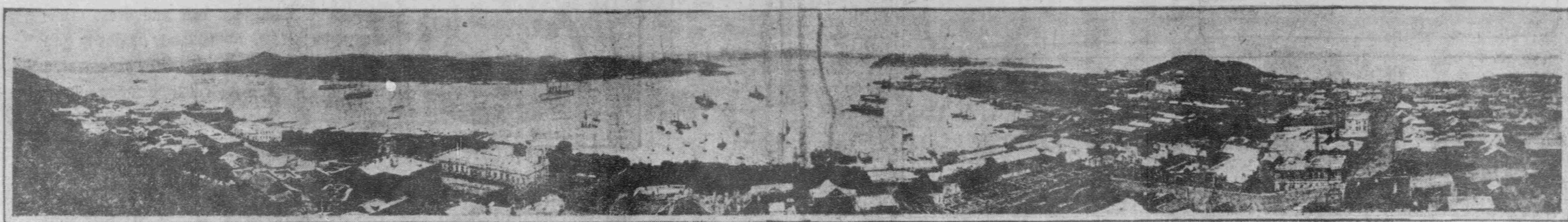


JAPANESE FOOT CAVALRY AGAINST COSSACK



HARBOR OF VLADIVOSTOK, RUSSIA'S GREAT SEAPORT AND TERMINUS OF THE TRANS-SIBERIAN RAILWAY.

—From Harper's Weekly.

JAPAN'S fighting strength on land is notably weak in two arms of the service—the cavalry and artillery—and the weakness in both cases is due to the same causes. The Japanese is not a successful handler of horses, and Japan does not produce good horses. The horse is not native to Japan and the Japanese has not that faculty for handling horses that is inborn to the native of the plains. The element of topography enters into the question. The plains produce horses and horsemen. Japan had no plains and no horses until the outside world supplied them, and the Japanese has never learned to handle his horse. Inversely in the horse lore that the man of the plains has had handed down to him from generation to generation, the Japanese has not acquired proper knowledge of the nature and needs of the horse, and the stock in Japan has deteriorated instead of improved, until now the Japanese horse is a wretched, scrawny little creature, but he is not yet so woefully deficient a horse as the Japanese as a rider and driver.

Russians Natural Horsemen.

The Russian, on the other hand, is a natural horseman. The Cossack has been a plainsman for centuries and he has mastered his steed until he has not a peer on earth, unless it be the American cowboy, and distinguished authorities who have studied both give the palm for horsemanship to the Cossack. And the Russian driver is not behind the Cossack in horsemanship. The Cossack will ride a horse you may bring him, and the driver of the drosky will put the horse in harness abreast of half a dozen others and put the old-time western stage driver to shame. Born riders and born drivers are Russian's cavalrymen and artillerymen. Furthermore, the Russian has good eyes and the Japanese has not as a general rule. Defective eyesight is a national weakness in Japan, although the army, especially the artillery branch, is filled by men who possess fairly good eyes, and history shows the Japanese shoot straight.

Where Russia Is Strong.

But granting to the Japanese eyesight equally as good as that of the Russian, it seems apparent that in comparing the strength of the Russian artillery and cavalry to the same branches of the Japanese army, the comparison is all in favor of the Russian. The Russian army is especially formidable in the branches of the service where the horse plays a conspicuous part, while the Japanese army is weak, pitifully weak, so far as the cavalry is concerned, and may be said to have no cavalry.

Japan has about 10,000 mounted men who masquerade as cavalrymen and are said to be able to perform all the duties of a cavalryman except to ride. In the artillery branch it makes a somewhat better showing.

But a million cavalrymen and a million artillerymen are of no value to an army unless they can reach and damage the enemy. The best rider in the world, mounted on the best horse in the world, cannot ride up the side of a cliff. The best driver on earth cannot follow a mountain trail nor drive through a trackless forest with a cannon behind him. Cavalry and artillery require open country to be of service, and in contrasting the strength of Russia and Japan it is necessary to consider the probable scene of military operations.

Nature of Country.

Manchuria and Korea will undoubtedly furnish the field. They do not furnish much country well adapted to cavalry or artillery operations. Korea is everywhere mountainous, with sharp peaks, rugged hills and narrow valleys, generally barren, but in the western portion covered with heavy timber. Manchuria has some plateaus away up in the northern part toward Siberia, but in general it, too, is mountainous and is divided by two great ranges. In Manchuria, mountain and plain are covered by dense forests, infested by tigers and other fierce animals. Both countries are distinctly rough and ill-fitted for the maneuvers of horsemen.

Character of Soldiers.

So that, taking into consideration the probable battlefields on land, it will be seen that Japan will not suffer greatly through its weakness in the cavalry and artillery branches, and the issue turns more upon the relative strength of Russia and Japan in the infantry branch. Here Russia has the better of it in numbers, Japan in personnel. The Russian infantryman is a dogged fighter. Once established in the position, he will fight to the death, but his mental processes are slow and the Japanese outmaneuver him. The Russian also

FACTS ABOUT LIFE IN JAPAN

Character and Climate of Country—Peculiar Customs of People, What They Eat and Drink and How They Get It.

The latitude of the main islands comprising the empire of Japan lie in about the same latitude as that portion of the United States lying between the southern extremity of Lake Michigan and the Gulf of Mexico, or from the thirtieth to about the forty-first parallels of north latitude. The southern part of the island of Yezo, the northernmost one of the group, and Salt Lake City are on the same parallel. The great ocean currents which sweep up through the Malay archipelago, through the Philippines and along the west coast of the Japanese islands make the climate there much milder than that of the United States. This is especially true of the eastern portions of the Japanese islands. The

western coast is not so well favored. The bleak winds from Siberia blow cold across the Japan sea in the winter, and noticeably in northern Honshu and Yezo, the weather in the winter is very cold. It is not uncommon in northern Japan for the houses to be provided with continuous porticoes to allow of street passage during the snowy season.

The rainy season is very irregular. It usually begins about the middle of June and lasts for a month, returning again in September. The late autumn is usually dry and the atmosphere then is clear. The yearly rainfall at Tokio is about 55 inches, and the climate as a whole, while beautiful, is damp. Japan is partly of volcanic origin.



View in Korea Looking South from Seoul.

—From Harper's Weekly.

Japanese at Home.

The Japanese do not have any great material comforts, unless, one believes, as some persons persist in believing, that a bath is comfort. The Japanese bathe several times a day if they get a chance, and every respectable person is supposed to bathe at least once a day. The main bath of the day is bathed in. It begins at 5 p. m., when papa takes his, and then on in succession every member of the household takes a bath in the big tub, the hired help coming last. This bathing process is not remarkable for the privacy in which it is conducted. Frequently the bathroom is in the east and west. There are Phylis may have company that night all hands are supposed to be polite enough to look in the other corner of the room and refrain from making any comment when the old gentleman leads the procession to the tub.

The Japanese houses are generally low and the roof is the solid part. From these three sides, which are built of mud or wattle after the roof is hoisted on poles, and the other side or sides left open, with a narrow veranda, separated from the house by paper screens, which slide in grooves. Often the four walls are paper. Wooden shutters are kept in reserve to be fitted in when it rains. The floors are covered with tatami mats, which are cheap, durable, and comfortable. The Japanese eat on the floor, and the rest of the furniture comprises a charcoal stove and one picture of autumn or something like that, which is removed at the door and all walk about in cotton slippers inside. Everybody uses tobacco, ladies and gentlemen alike. They use a metal pipe, which is a sort of a cigarette holder, with a coal, take three or four pulls at it and dump out the ashes.

The government makes its employees work hard while on duty, but the official puts on something comfortable as soon as he gets home. This is a big loose gown made in one piece from the neck down to the feet. The woman's dress is about the same, only there is a little more to it, naturally. Her girlish, called obi, is not less than eight inches wide. It is a sort of a sash, and is worn around the waist. Her papa's or husband's money. In cold weather the ladies merely add more robes like the one they already have on, and they manage to keep comfortable if the wardrobe does not play out. The Japanese women wear no jewelry.

Poor Folks Eat Hay.

Some of the people have to live on hay in Japan, the poorer classes, who have nothing but millet, or other grain, to satisfy their hunger. Rice is the staple national diet, however. Dried seaweed is often used as a basis for soup and is also eaten in other forms. Vegetable food, etc., are used, but generally cooked up into a mess that makes a foreigner sorry he ever left home.

The Japanese drink a lot of tea. The Chinese element is like, above referred to, made from rice, fermented and insidious; mugli-ju, made from roasted barley, and a brandy known as shochu, warranted to be good. The Japanese are mostly borrowed from China and Korea, with both of which countries the Japanese were closely associated centuries ago. The first great painter in Japan was Kanami, who lived in the ninth century and pictured interior views by thoughtfully removing the roof from the house in his picture. The big painter of them all, though, was Kano, who lived ninety-six years from 1424 and turned out some mighty funny things, although he was a serious man by nature. The work of all Japanese painters is done in ink and wash, and the Japanese artists do not like oil painting, introduced from abroad, but stick to water colors and paint on paper, silk, and other materials. They print lots of books yearly and publish many newspapers, but their literary persons are handicapped by the language. They faked in a lot of words from the Chinese, which the Japanese and so copied them up that while it is easy to read, it is not possible to speak a good bit of the matter published. This made it impossible to give select readings from the poets and so the poets now confine themselves mostly to gentle little things like lullabies and baying-cant stunts. The introduction of the "sho," which is a fan, really a little book, and the language but a conversation, as well as literature in Japan. For instance, fifty different words are pronounced "so," and more than 100 different words are pronounced "sho," which is a fan, really a little book, and the language but a conversation, as well as literature in Japan.

Japan is generously covered with a great species of pine and other soft woods, while the valleys bear tropical trees of different kinds. There are several varieties of hard woods and a light wood, the kiri, much used for boxes and sandals. Japan is entitled to its name of "Chrysanthemum Empire," because of the profusion in which the flower grows there. It divides honors with the azalea, iris, peony, blue and white wisteria, lotus and camellia. Japan is not much of a fruit-raising country. The strawberry is an importation of recent date but is getting popular. Other fruits are the kiwi and peach, barley, bean, melon, and melon. The production of stone fruit Japan is a false alarm, although they do drag up a few plums and peaches, putting salt on them and eating them before they are ripe. Stomach trouble is common in Japan.

RUSSIA'S LOVE FOR AMERICA

Opposed Independence of United States, Discriminates Against American Citizens and Sought to Make Trouble For Us in 1898.

WHENEVER anything extraordinary takes place in Russia, and of late years that has been very frequent, surprise is expressed in the official press that public sentiment in the United States should be so unimpaired of the traditional friendship between the two countries as to array itself against her. Many in the United States were misled by this constant iteration of the "traditional friendship," until the recent Kishineff outrages, which caused such protest from platform and pulpit, and induced some in-

spendence of the American Revolution," says: "That Catharine was resolutely averse to the American cause until after definite peace, there is now no question." Vol. VI, page 42. At last Dana, in September, 1872, being successful in his efforts to obtain recognition or to have Russia recognize the independence of our country, obtained permission from congress to return home.

Second—It will be remembered that Russia was the dominant power in the so-called "Holy Alliance," whose purpose was to dominate the American continent, and especially to crush the spirit of liberty in South American re-

tions," and what purpose the ships were to serve?

During War With Spain.

Your readers will remember during the late Spanish war how skillfully the Russian ambassador endeavored to make it appear that Lord Panmouthe had attempted to combine the powers to restrain the United States, or to side with Spain. The well known character and reputation for uprightness which had won for the British ambassador the esteem of the president and the officials of our government, completely shattered the traditional policy of Russia of endeavoring to create enmity between us and Great Britain. Probably the memoirs of Secretary Hay will enlighten the generation to come upon this phase of Russian diplomacy.

What Americans Remember.

The reason why the people of this country are almost to a man on the side of Japan in the present war, even if the traditional relations had been as falsely claimed by Russia, are briefly these: Americans are a liberty-loving people, and they have not forgotten Russia's dismemberment and persecution of Poland, her recent spoliation of Finland, the east of Russia, the persecution of the student, and the cry of anguish from Kishineff, which still rings in our ears. Had Russia respected her obligations entered into upon the initiative of Secretary Hay of the open door in Manchuria, this war would never have taken place. The nations which have had dealings with Russia have no faith in her obligations.

In 1832 we entered into a treaty of "commerce and navigation" with Russia, which provides: "The inhabitants of their respective states shall mutually have liberty to enter the ports, places and rivers of the territories of each party wherever foreign commerce is permitted. They shall be at liberty to sojourn and reside in all parts whatsoever of said territories, in order to attend to their affairs; and they shall enjoy to that effect the same security and protection as natives of the country wherein they reside, on condition of their submitting to the laws and ordinances there prevailing, and particularly to the regulations in force concerning commerce."

Discrimination Against Americans.

Notwithstanding this treaty, which is still in force, Russia, in violation of this most solemn obligation known to the world, has discriminated against American citizens, contrary to the expressed stipulations of the treaty. Mr. Blaine, when secretary of state, protesting against this action, wrote:

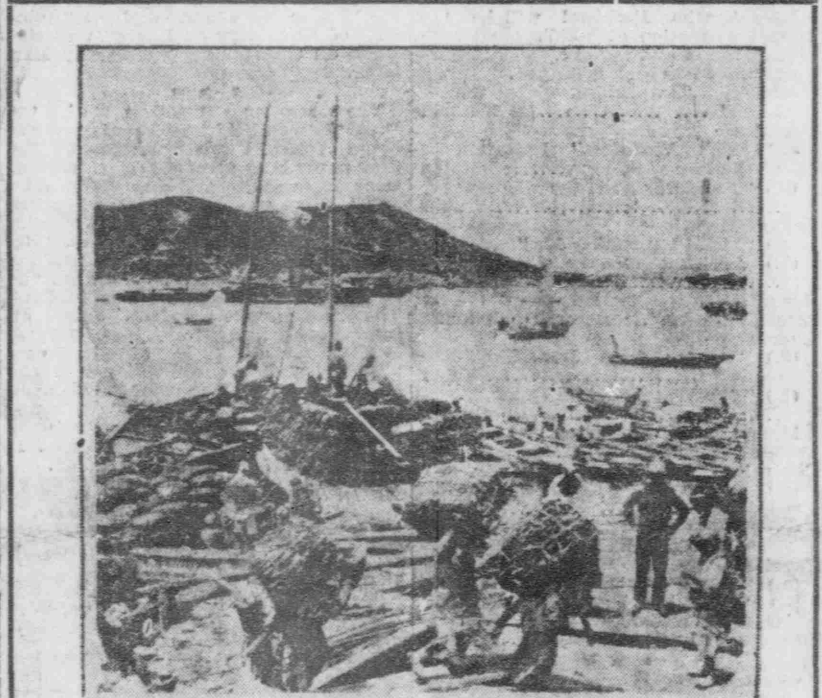
"It is therefore a source of unfeigned regret to us when a government to which we are bound by so many historical ties as to that of Russia shows a disposition in its dealings with us to take advantage of technicalities to appeal to the right letter and not the reciprocal spirit of the treaty. It is a source of no less regret to us when a government, in violation of the commercial code of the land, but of simple adherence to the faith of their fathers."

Nothing in Common.

The Russian spirit of today has nothing in common with the United States; much so that if any power in Russia should print our Declaration of Independence it would be suppressed by the censor. The graphic forecast of her policy by England's greatest diplomat of the last century, Stratford Canning, is verified in our day:

"Rome of old extended its sway by conquest, but wherever she eagles flew, the arts of civilization followed. The Russian bird of prey has no such mission; it turns indeed toward the sun, but the shadow of its wings is blighting, and moral desolation closes upon its flight."

There is one bright jewel in the Russian diadem, the peace congress at the Hague, which was due to her initiative. The convoking of the congress, and the establishment of the permanent court of arbitration, which is justly regarded as the crowning act of the nineteenth century, glorified Russia in the eyes of the world. But has not this glory been dimmed by her provoking this war by not living up to her obligations in Manchuria, and during a period of eight months evading the justified protest of Japan, instead of laying her claims to Manchuria, if she had any, before the international tribunal? Finally, American sympathies are with Japan, because she is battling on the side of enlightenment and civilization against Russian duplicity and the expansion of the blighting Asiatic power.—Historian, in New York Times.



Harb or of Chemulpo, Korea.

—From Harper's Weekly.

vestigation of that patronizing claim of Russia.

The Times of June 5, 1902, gave extracts from a leading article in the Novoye Vremya headed "Russia in America," which read: "The United States from time to time enters the arena of anti-Russian propaganda, which finds favorable soil in its politically unripe population without government traditions, and carried away by the success of its own imperialistic policy. The Siberian prisons, the Manchurian open door, the Kishineff disorders—all these serve as a pretext for the anti-Russian meetings so advantageous to Russia's enemies, while Secretary Hay's stubborn Anglophilism lends governmental importance to the claims of the various groups of American traders and missionaries in the far east," and concludes: "The Russian foreign office should publish in English a sketch of the relations between the Russian and American governments, beginning with the time of Catharine and ending with the Spanish-American war."

Facts For Russian Foreign Office.

Perhaps I can assist the Russian foreign office in this investigation. First—Under Catharine II a scheme was formed, in 1779, when we were in the most trying period of our revolutionary war, for giving George III effective assistance against us on condition that the English aid Russia in renewed attacks upon the Turks. A part of this programme was that the island of Minorca was to be ceded by England to Russia as a station for the Russian fleet in the Mediterranean and as a rendezvous for the insurgent Greeks.

This project was drawn up by Catharine's chief adviser, Count Potemkin, for presentation to the British ambassador at St. Petersburg, but through the adroitness of Count Panin, Catharine's minister of foreign affairs, who favored the French interest against the English, the scheme fell through, thereby causing the emperor to adopt the anti-British policy—armed neutrality. The nature of Russia's friendship for us at this period, when we were most in need of the friendly offices of foreign nations, is disclosed by Benjamin Franklin, who was then in Paris as one of our commissioners to negotiate peace with Great Britain. He describes with what friendly satisfaction Russia had learned of the recognition of our independence by the states general of Holland.

I quote from his journal, Franklin's works, edited by Bigelow, Vol. 8, page 58: "This day," (June 8, 1782), says Franklin, "I received a letter from Mr. Dana dated at St. Petersburg April 29, in which is the following passage: 'We yesterday received the news that the states general on the nineteenth of this month acknowledged the independence of the United States. This event gave a shock here, and is not well received, as they at least professed to have flattered themselves that mediation would have prevented it and otherwise brought on a partial peace between Britain and Holland.'"

Opposed to American Independence.

Mr. Francis Dana, afterward chief justice of Massachusetts, was at this time our accredited minister to Russia. He remained there about two years asking to be recognized, but Russia refused to receive him or recognize the independence of our country, and this, although nine months before the preliminary peace had been signed. Wharton in his "Diplomatic Corre-

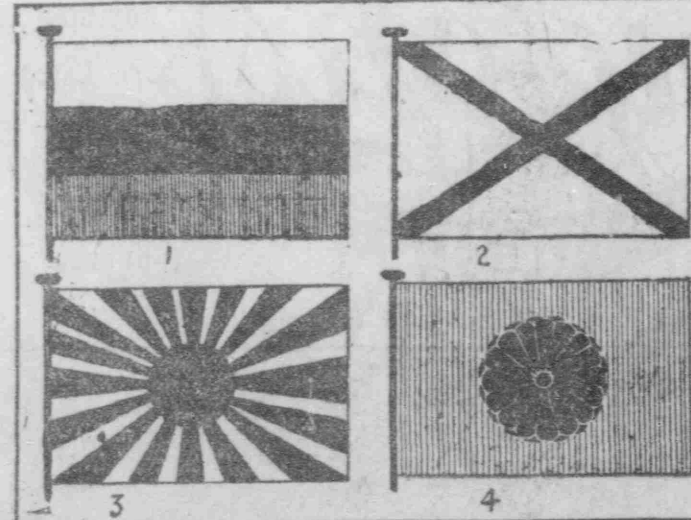
publics. We have reason to be grateful to Russia for this attitude, in that we are indebted to it for our far-seeing national policy, the Monroe doctrine. Third—Frequent reference is made to Russia's friendly attitude to us during the civil war in 1867, when she sent several warships to the Atlantic and to the Pacific with "sealed instructions." Much has been made of this, but has any one disclosed what those "sealed instructions" were, and has any one a right to suppose that they were for any other purpose than to offend England, or, in other words, that her relations toward us even during the civil war were anything more than moves made by her upon the chessboard of European diplomacy purely and only as counter moves to England?

Why Ships Were Sent.

A recent writer, referring to this, says that Prince Gortschakoff, the ambassador of the empire, had demanded from the signatory powers of the treaty of Paris, in 1856, the abrogation of the clause of the treaty which prohibited Russia from maintaining an armed navy in the Black sea. England and France strenuously opposed and objected to this. The chancellor in reply sent what came very near to being an ultimatum, and fearing that this act would be followed by hostilities, sent his fleet into neutral waters, so that it would not be bottled up for destruction, as Russia's fleet had once been in the harbor of Sebastopol. That Russia at that time was without an ally in Europe, and that nihilism was rampant in the empire, and that she was plotting against the life and throne of the czar, and that the Russian fleet was sent to American waters for the protection of the empire, and not for the protection of the United States. Be that as it may, why do not the records of our department of state disclose, as would be the case under those circumstances, what were those mysterious "sealed instructions?"

WARS OF HALF CENTURY.

1846-47—Mexican war, between the United States and Mexico, resulting in the annexation of territory to the United States.
1854-56—Crimea, between Russia and Turkish allies, Great Britain, France and Sardinia. Bottled up Russia.
1857—Indian mutiny, British troops against Sepoys. Rebellion suppressed.
1861-65—Civil war, north against south. North victorious.
1864-67—Mexican war, Mexicans against French under Maximilian. French ousted and Maximilian shot.
1870-71—Franco-Prussian, between Germans and French. French defeated; heavy indemnity imposed by Germany under Bismarck; empire ended, third republic begun.
1871—Peaceful occupation by troops under Victor Emanuel of Rome, ending papal dominion.
1876-77—Russo-Turkish war. Balkan principalities established.
1881-85—Campaigns in Sudan, under General Gordon, who was killed at Khartoum. (Similar campaign under Kitchener, in 1898; battle of Omdurman.)
1894-95—Chinese-Japanese dispute as to suzerainty in Korea. Japanese won; treaty of Simonséki gave them rights on the continent and at Port Arthur. Powers compelled Japanese to surrender the fruits of the victory and the treaty of Tokio embodied the surrender.
1897—Greece-Turkey war. Rebellion against Turkish rule in Crete. Greece goes to aid Crete. War transferred to mainland. Turkey whips Greece. Crete ceded to England.
1898—Spanish-American war. Begun to free Cuba from Spanish rule. United States acquired Porto Rico and the Philippines and drove Spain from West Indies.
1899-02—Boer war. British against Boers, for suzerainty of Transvaal. British won, taking Transvaal and Orange River colony.
1900—Boxer troubles in China. Powers send troops. Great Britain enters actively international arena. Showed Japanese troops in good light.



Flags of Russia and Japan.

1—Russian merchant, white, black and red. 2—Russian man-of-war, white and red. 3—Japanese man-of-war, white and red with black rays. 4—Japanese imperial, white and red.
The Russian national flag is yellow with the arms, black double eagle, in the center. The Japanese national flag is white with red circle in center.